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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/764,312	01/19/2001	Yoshihisa Yamada	1163-0318P	6764
7590	06/15/2005		EXAMINER	
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP P.O. BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			RAO, ANAND SHASHIKANT	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2613	

DATE MAILED: 06/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/764,312	YAMADA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Andy S. Rao	2613	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 2-4 and 9-15 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1,5-8,16 and 17 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of group IV as read on by claims 1, 5-8, 16-17 in the reply filed on is acknowledged. The argument for traverse is directed towards the status of claim 17, which the Examiner has agreed to treat as generic.

Specification

2. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002

do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. Claims 1, 5-8, and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Suzuki et al., (hereinafter referred to as "Suzuki").

Suzuki discloses a coding device for coding and outputting the coded data as a bit stream. said image coding device comprising: an input image controller that executes a predetermined processing to an input motion image signal for reducing the amount of coded data when coding the motion image signal by a coding method a motion image signal (Suzuki: column 14, lines 5-15), in which it is prescribed that the frame rate of a motion image signal is set to a constant level to be output at its decoding time (Suzuki: column 16, lines 5-15) and outputs the processed motion image signal together with the process information indicating the detail of said processing and an image coder for coding the motion image signal processed at said input image controller into a data in conformity with said coding method on the basis of said process information (Suzuki: column 15, lines 5-15), as in claims 1, 16 and 17.

Regarding claim 5, Suzuki discloses that input image controller excludes either one field of each of the frames at a predetermined rate when the input motion image signals of the interlace method, and outputs the processed motion image signal, together with the process information and showing the thus excluded said image coder detects the exclusion of fields on the basis of said process information, performs a predictive coding with respect to the thus

excluded fields on the basis of the other fields, and generates a coded data corresponding to said excluded fields (Suzuki: column 15, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 6, Suzuki discloses wherein said image coder executes a predictive coding considering all the motion vectors in the horizontal and vertical directions to be zero (Suzuki: column 20, lines 60-65),

Regarding claim 7, Suzuki discloses wherein said image coder executes a predictive coding considering all the motion vectors in the horizontal directions to be zero (Suzuki: column 20, lines 60-65) and the vertical direction to +1/2 to -1/2 (Suzuki: column 19, lines 60-67), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 8, Suzuki discloses that input image controller excludes either one field of each of the frames at a predetermined rate when the input motion image signals of the interlace method, and outputs the processed motion image signal, together with the process information and showing the thus excluded said image coder detects the exclusion of fields on the basis of said process information, performs a predictive coding with respect to the thus excluded fields on the basis of the other fields, and generates a coded data corresponding to said excluded fields (Suzuki: column 15, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Van Dijk discloses a system and method for motion compensation.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andy S. Rao whose telephone number is (571)-272-7337. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8 hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad S. Dastouri can be reached on (571)-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Andy S. Rao
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2613

asr
June 13, 2005

ANDY RAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

